



## U.S. Department of Justice

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

August 6, 2004

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### **PRESS RELEASE**

**MACON:** Maxwell Wood, United States Attorney for the Middle District of Georgia, announced today that **ERIC J. SMITH**, age 41, of Macon, Bibb County, Georgia, was sentenced in United States District Court in Macon, Georgia to ten (10) years in Federal Prison without parole.

Mr. Smith was the subject of a narcotics investigation sponsored by the Macon Office of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation. The investigation resulted in an indictment which charged Mr. Smith with possession with the intent to distribute crack cocaine and cocaine. On May 11, 2004, Mr. Smith entered a plea of guilty to possession or more than five (5) grams of crack cocaine with the intent to distribute.

As part of his plea, Mr. Smith admitted that on January 8, 2004, he sold a confidential informant one (1) kilogram of cocaine for Twenty-Three Thousand Dollars (\$23,000.00). Mr. Smith further acknowledged that a search warrant executed at his residence on January 8, 2004, resulted in the seizure of an ounce of crack cocaine, a 9 mm pistol and Three Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars (\$3,700.00) in cash. During the change of plea hearing, Mr. Smith agreed to forfeit the cash as being proceeds of his illegal drug activities.

United States Attorney, Maxwell Wood, stated "this sentence reflects this office's aggressive approach to illegal drug prosecutions".

The case was prosecuted by AUSA Jennifer Kolman. Any questions concerning this matter should be directed to Sue McKinney, Press Contact, United States Attorneys Office, at (478) 621-2602.

**APPROVED FOR RELEASE**

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**MAXWELL WOOD  
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY**